



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE

355 Deadmore Street, PO Box 1688, Abingdon, Virginia 24212

Phone (276) 676-4800 Fax (276)676-4899

www.deq.virginia.gov

Douglas W. Domenech
Secretary of Natural Resources

David K. Paylor
Director

Dallas R. Sizemore
Regional Director

February 8, 2010

Mr. Lawrence Smith, Authorized Agent
Paramont Coal Company, LLC
5703 Crutchfield Drive
Norton, VA 24273

**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

RE: Joint Permit Application Number 09-0833
Paramont Coal Company Virginia, LLC-Deep Mine No 41 Water Withdrawal
Dickenson County, Virginia

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

Pursuant to the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) Permit Program Regulation 9 VAC 25-210-10 et seq., § 401 of the Clean Water Act Amendments of 1977, and Public Law 95-217, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has enclosed the original VWP individual permit for the Paramont Coal Company Virginia, LLC-Deep Mine No 41 Water Withdrawal. The project proposes a 0.25 million gallon per day withdrawal on the McClure River in Dickenson County Virginia. This will be accomplished by a screened intake structure, ten feet in diameter, placed one-third in the bank and two-thirds channel ward of the ordinary high water mark in the McClure River. Construction of the intake structure will permanently impact 53 square feet and temporarily impact 590 square feet of jurisdictional waters. The intake will allow the permittee to withdraw up to 220 gallons per minute over an 18-hour day, not to exceed an instantaneous withdrawal rate of 220 gallons per minute.

This permit is valid for 15 years from the date of issuance. Continuation of the permit may be necessary if any portion of the authorized activities or any permit requirement, including compensatory mitigation provisions, have not been completed. An extension may be requested through written notification to the Department of Environmental Quality Southwest Regional Office, provided that there are no changes in the authorized activities.

As provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, you have **30 calendar days** from the date of service (the date you actually received this decision or the date it was mailed to you, whichever occurred first) within which to appeal this decision by filing a notice of appeal in

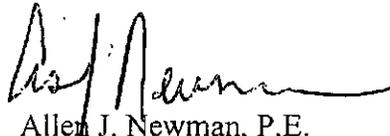
Mr. Lawrence Smith
February 8, 2010
Page 2 of 2

accordance with the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia with the Director, Department of Environmental Quality. In the event that this decision is served on you by mail, three days are added to that period. Refer to Part 2A of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia for additional requirements governing appeals from administrative agencies.

Alternatively, any owner under §§62.1-44.16, 62.1-44.17, and 62.1-44.19 of the State Water Control Law aggrieved by any action the board has taken without a formal hearing, or by inaction of the board, may demand in writing a formal hearing of such owner's grievance, provided a petition requesting such hearing is filed with the board. Said petition must meet the requirements set forth in the board's Procedural Rule Number 1 (9 VAC 25-230-130 B). In cases involving actions of the board, such petition must be filed within 30 calendar days after notice of such action is sent to such owner by certified mail.

If you have any questions, please contact Clairise R. Shaheen at (276) 676-4809.

Sincerely,



Allen J. Newman, P.E.
Water Permit Manager

Enclosures: Permit Cover Page, Part I - Special Conditions, Part II - General Conditions,

Copy: Annette Poore, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Claire Trent, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Randy Owen, Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Lance DeBord, D.R. Allen and Associates, P.C.
Laura Beth Jones, D.R. Allen and Associates, P.C.
DEQ File-69



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

VWP Individual Permit Number 09-0833

Effective Date: February 8, 2010

Expiration Date: February 7, 2025

VIRGINIA WATER PROTECTION PERMIT ISSUED PURSUANT TO THE STATE WATER CONTROL LAW AND SECTION 401 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT

Based upon an examination of the information submitted by the owner, and in compliance with § 401 of the Clean Water Act as amended (33 USC 1341) and the State Water Control Law and regulations adopted pursuant thereto, the State Water Control Board (board) has determined that there is a reasonable assurance that the activity authorized by this permit, if conducted in accordance with the conditions set forth herein, will protect instream beneficial uses and will not violate applicable water quality standards. The board finds that the effect of the impact, together with other existing or proposed impacts to surface waters, will not cause or contribute to a significant impairment to state waters or fish and wildlife resources.

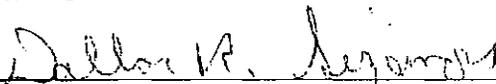
Permittee: Paramont Coal Company Virginia, L.L.C.

Address: 5703 Crutchfield Drive, Norton, VA 24273

Activity Location: From St. Rt. 63 North, turn left onto St Rt. 643, take first right before railroad tracks, follow gravel road to McClure River.

Activity Description: The permittee proposes a 0.25 million gallon per day withdrawal on the McClure River. This will be accomplished by a screened intake structure, ten feet in diameter, placed one-third in the bank and two-thirds channel ward of the ordinary high water mark in the McClure River. Construction of the intake structure will permanently impact 53 square feet and temporarily impact 590 square feet of jurisdictional waters. The intake will allow the permittee to withdraw up to 220 gallons per minute over an 18-hour day, not to exceed an instantaneous withdrawal rate of 220 gallons per minute.

The permitted activity shall be in accordance with this Permit Cover Page, Part I - Special Conditions, and Part II - General Conditions.



Dallas R. Sizemore, Regional Director
Department of Environmental Quality

2/8/10
Date

Part I – Special Conditions

A. Authorized Activities

1. This permit authorizes the following impacts as indicated in the application dated June 11, 2009, received by DEQ on June 19, 2009, and deemed complete by DEQ on November 13, 2009. The permit authorization and conditions are also based on additional submittals approved by DEQ.
2. The withdrawal of surface water from the McClure River, shall not exceed a maximum *daily* withdrawal volume of 0.25 million gallons; shall not exceed a maximum *instantaneous* withdrawal rate of 220 gallons per minute, and shall not exceed a maximum *annual* withdrawal volume of 91.25 million gallons. Authorization of this withdrawal shall limited to 10 percent of the stream flow as outlined in Part I.E. of this permit.
3. The permittee shall comply with Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) recommendations as outlined in the Joint Permit Application and subsequent agency correspondence, and coordinate with the VDGIF Region II Wildlife Diversity Biologist and U.S. Fish and Wildlife on all surveys and relocation efforts prior to construction. The permittee shall adhere to any Time-of-Year restriction(s) recommended by VDGIF and Virginia Marine Resources.
4. The withdrawal of surface water from the McClure River shall be through a submersible pump located in a structure measuring ten feet in diameter, located one-third in the bank and two-thirds channelward of the ordinary high water mark of the McClure River. Impacts that are authorized resulting from this construction are 53 square feet of permanent impacts and a total of 590 square feet temporary impacts to jurisdictional waters.
5. No discharge of backwash water into state waters, as a result of this water withdrawal, is authorized by this permit.

B. Permit Term

This permit is valid for **15 years** from the date of issuance. An extension of this permit term or a new permit may be necessary for the continuance of the authorized activities, including water withdrawals, or any permit requirement that has not been completed, including compensation provisions. The permit term, including any granted extensions, shall not exceed 15 years.

The permittee shall notify DEQ in writing at least **120 calendar days** prior to the expiration of this permit if an extension of the permit term is required.

C. Standard Project Conditions

1. The activities authorized by this permit shall be executed in such a manner that any impacts to stream beneficial uses are minimized. As defined in § 62.1-10(b) of the Code, "beneficial use" means both instream and offstream uses. Instream beneficial uses include, but are not limited to, the protection of fish and wildlife habitat, maintenance of waste assimilation, recreation, navigation, and cultural and aesthetic values. Offstream beneficial uses include, but are not limited to, domestic (including public water supply), agricultural, electric power generation, commercial, and industrial uses. Public water supply uses for human consumption shall be considered the highest priority.
2. No activity shall substantially disrupt the movement of aquatic life indigenous to the water body, including those species that normally migrate through the area, unless the primary purpose of the activity is to impound water.
3. Flows downstream of the project area shall be maintained to protect all uses.
4. No activity shall cause more than minimal adverse effect on navigation, and no activity shall block more than half of the width of the stream at any given time.
5. The activity shall not impede the passage of normal or expected high flows, and any associated structure shall withstand expected high flows.
6. Continuous flow of perennial springs shall be maintained by the installation of spring boxes, French drains, or other similar structures.
7. Activities shall be conducted in accordance with any Time-of-Year restriction(s) as recommended by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries or the Virginia Marine Resources Commission. The permittee shall retain a copy of the agency correspondence concerning the Time-of-Year restriction(s), or the lack thereof, for the duration of the construction phase of the project.
8. All excavation, dredging, or filling in surface waters shall be accomplished in a manner that minimizes bottom disturbance and turbidity. Turbidity levels downstream of the construction site shall not exceed turbidity levels upstream of the construction site at any time.
9. All in-stream activities shall be conducted during low-flow conditions whenever practicable.

10. All construction, construction access, and demolition activities associated with this project shall be accomplished in a manner that minimizes construction materials or waste materials from entering surface waters, unless authorized by this permit. Wet, excess, or waste concrete shall be prohibited from entering surface waters.
11. All fill material placed in surface waters shall be clean and free of contaminants in toxic concentrations or amounts in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.
12. Stormwater runoff shall be prohibited from directly discharging into any surface waters. Best management practices (BMP) designed, installed, and maintained, as described in the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook (Third Edition, 1992, or the most recent version in effect at the time of construction) and the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook (First Edition, 1999, or the most recent version in effect at the time of construction), shall be deemed suitable treatment prior to discharge into surface waters. Installation of alternative practices not described in these references shall be submitted to DEQ for approval prior to beginning construction.
13. Measures shall be employed at all times to prevent and contain spills of fuels, lubricants, or other pollutants into surface waters.
14. Machinery or heavy equipment in temporarily impacted wetlands shall be placed on mats or geotextile fabric, or other suitable means shall be implemented, to minimize soil disturbance to the maximum extent practical. Mats, fabrics, or other measures shall be removed as soon as the work is complete in the temporarily impacted wetland.
15. Heavy equipment is authorized for use within the stream channel during project construction or stream restoration activities when site conditions prohibit access from the streambank. The equipment shall be stationed on cobble bars and the activities conducted in the dry or during low flow conditions, whenever possible.
16. Temporary disturbances to wetlands, stream channels, and/or stream banks during project construction activities shall be avoided and minimized to the maximum extent practicable.
17. All temporarily disturbed wetland areas shall be restored to preconstruction conditions within **30 calendar days** of completing work in the areas, which shall include re-establishing pre-construction contours, and planting or seeding with appropriate wetland vegetation according to cover type (emergent, scrub/shrub, or forested), except for invasive species identified on DCR's Invasive Alien Plant

Species of Virginia list. The permittee shall take all appropriate measures to promote and maintain the revegetation of temporarily disturbed surface waters through the **second year post-disturbance**.

18. All temporarily impacted streams and stream banks shall be restored to their original elevations and contours within **30 calendar days** following the construction at that stream segment, and the banks shall be seeded or planted with the same vegetative cover type originally present along the banks, including supplemental erosion control grasses if necessary but not including invasive species identified on DCR's Invasive Alien Plant Species of Virginia list. The permittee shall take all appropriate measures to promote and maintain the revegetation of temporarily disturbed surface waters through the **second year post-disturbance**.
19. All materials (including fill, construction debris, excavated materials, and woody materials, that are temporarily placed in wetlands, in stream channels, or on stream banks) shall be placed on mats or geotextile fabric, shall be immediately stabilized to prevent the material or leachate from entering surface waters, and shall be entirely removed within **30 calendar days** following completion of that construction activity. After removal, disturbed areas shall be returned to original contours, shall be stabilized, and shall be restored to the original vegetated state within **30 calendar days**. The permittee shall take all appropriate measures to promote and maintain the revegetation of temporarily disturbed surface waters through the **second year post-disturbance**.
20. Temporary in-stream construction features such as cofferdams shall be made of non-erodible materials.
21. Virginia Water Quality Standards shall not be violated in any surface waters as a result of the project activities.
22. Seeds used for all project and compensation activities shall conform to the Virginia Seed Law (Sections 3.1-262 Code of Virginia) and Virginia Seed Regulations (2 VAC 5-290-10 et seq).
23. Erosion and sedimentation controls shall be designed in accordance with the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook, Third Edition, 1992, or the most recent version in effect at the time of construction. These controls shall be placed prior to clearing and grading activities and shall be maintained in good working order, to minimize impacts to surface waters. These controls shall remain in place only until clearing and grading activities cease and these areas have been stabilized.

24. All *non-impacted* wetlands, streams, and designated upland buffers that are within the project or right-of-way limits, and that are within fifty feet of any project activities, shall be clearly flagged or demarcated for the life of the construction activity within that area. All non-impacted open water areas within the project or right-of-way limits, and that are within fifty feet of any project activities, shall be clearly flagged or demarcated, as practicable, for the life of the construction activity within that area. The permittee shall notify all contractors and subcontractors that *no activities are to occur in these marked areas*.
25. All required notifications and submittals shall be submitted to the DEQ office stated below, to the attention of the VWP permit manager, unless directed in writing by DEQ subsequent to the issuance of this permit:

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Southwest Regional Office
P.O. Box 1688
355 Deadmore Street
Abingdon, VA 24212

26. All reports required by this permit and other information requested by DEQ shall be signed by the permittee or a person acting in the permittee's behalf, with the authority to bind the permittee. A person is a duly authorized representative only if *both* criteria below are met. If a representative authorization is no longer valid because of a change in responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization shall be immediately submitted to DEQ.
- a. The authorization is made in writing by the permittee.
 - b. The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, such as the position of plant manager, superintendent, or position of equivalent responsibility. A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.
27. All submittals shall contain the following signed certification statement:

"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are

significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

28. Any fish kills or spills of fuels or oils shall be reported to DEQ immediately upon discovery at (276)676-4800. If DEQ cannot be reached, the spill shall be reported to the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (DEM) at 1-800-468-8892 or the National Response Center (NRC) at 1-800-424-8802.
29. DEQ shall be notified in writing within **24 hours or as soon as possible on the next business day** when potential environmentally threatening conditions are encountered which require debris removal or involve potentially toxic substances. Measures to remove the obstruction, material, or toxic substance or to change the location of any structure are prohibited until approved by DEQ.
30. The permittee shall notify the DEQ of any additional impacts to surface waters, including wetlands; of any modifications of the intake structure; and of any change to the type of surface water impacts associated with this project. Any additional impacts, modifications, or changes shall be subject to individual permit review and/or modification of this permit. Compensation may be required.

D. Intake Structure

1. Any exposed slopes or streambanks shall be stabilized immediately upon completion of work in each impact area. Methods and materials for stabilization shall be in accordance with the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook, Third Edition, 1992, or the most recent version in effect at the time of construction.
2. Redistribution of existing stream substrate for erosion control purposes is prohibited.
3. Material removed from the stream bottom shall not be deposited into surface waters unless otherwise authorized as fill material in this permit.
4. For streambank protection activities, structures and backfill shall be placed as close to the streambank as practical, while still avoiding and minimizing impacts to vegetated wetlands to the maximum extent practical. No material shall be placed in excess of the minimum necessary for erosion protection.
5. Asphalt and materials containing asphalt or other toxic substances shall not be used in the construction of submerged sills, breakwaters, dams, or weirs.

E. Surface Water Withdrawal

1. Water withdrawal rates and volumes shall comply with the limits set forth in Part I.A. In addition, the withdrawal shall be limited to no more than 10 percent of the estimated instantaneous flow of the McClure River at the intake in order to preserve downstream uses.
2. The permittee shall monitor withdrawals from the McClure River on a daily basis to confirm that the withdrawals are in compliance with special conditions of this permit. To comply with Part I.E.1, the permittee shall monitor daily stream flow rates at the USGS gage 03208950, Cranes Nest River, near Clintwood. The estimated flow in the McClure River at the intake location shall be the flow at the Cranes Nest River gage multiplied by 1.2 to account for the difference in drainage area. The permittee shall maintain daily records of pumping rate, total volume pumped, stream gage flow rate, and estimated stream flow rate at the intake.
3. To prevent the impingement and entrainment of fish eggs, larvae, and other aquatic life, the intake screens shall be so designed that screen openings are not larger than 1 millimeter in width and the screen face intake velocities are not greater than 0.25 feet per second.
4. Water withdrawal monitoring and reporting activities shall comply with this section, Part I.C, and Part II. All records and information that result from the monitoring and reporting activities required by this permit, including any records of maintenance activities to the withdrawal system, shall be retained for the life of the permit. This period of retention shall be extended automatically during the course of any unresolved litigation regarding the regulated activity or as requested by the State Water Control Board.
5. A brief report shall be prepared summarizing the dates on which the flow-by rate did not meet the minimum 10 percent as required by this permit. Each monitoring report shall be submitted to DEQ by the 10th of the month following data collection (e.g., should May experience days of below minimum flow-by, the monitoring report shall be due June 10th of the applicable year).
6. The permittee shall report all authorized surface water withdrawals to the DEQ Office of Surface and Groundwater Supply Planning at P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia, 23218 by **January 31st** of the year following the year in which the withdrawals occurred. Reporting **surface water withdrawals** in accordance with the conditions of this permit satisfies the reporting requirement for *Water Withdrawal Reporting Regulation 9VAC25-200-10 et seq.* The annual monitoring report shall contain the following information:

- the permittee's name and address;
- the permit number;
- the source (s) from which water is withdrawn;
- the location (latitude and longitude) of each point of water withdrawal;
- the cumulative volume (million gallons) of water withdrawn each month of the calendar year;
- the largest single day withdrawal volume (million gallons) that occurred in the year and the month in which it occurred; and
- the method of measuring each withdrawal.

F. Project Construction Monitoring and Submittals (Impact Site)

Pre-Construction and Post-Construction Monitoring

1. The permittee shall provide photographs of pre-construction and post-construction conditions in permitted permanent and temporary impact areas covered by this permit. Photographic monitoring for pre-construction and post-construction conditions shall be conducted by the following method:

A photo station(s) shall be established at the permitted impact area that shall be used for the duration of construction activities. The directional orientation of each photo station shall remain constant during all monitoring events. Photo station(s) shall be sufficient to represent all permitted activities. Each photograph taken shall be labeled with the permit number, the permitted impact area, the photo station number, the photograph orientation, the date and time of the photograph, the name of the person taking the photograph, and a brief description of the photograph subject. This information shall be provided as a separate attachment to each photograph, if necessary. The permittee shall use the same location(s) for both pre-construction and post-construction monitoring.

Pre-Construction Submittals

2. Final plans for the project construction activities authorized by this permit shall be submitted **30 calendar days** prior to initiating any land disturbance or construction in permitted impact areas. Construction activities shall not be initiated until DEQ has both reviewed and commented on the plans, or until **30 calendar days** have passed, during which time no DEQ comments were received regarding the plan. In the event DEQ submits comments on the final plans, construction shall not proceed until comments are resolved to DEQ's satisfaction.
3. Construction shall be performed in accordance with the final construction plans submitted to DEQ. Final construction plans shall include the location and orientation

of all photo monitoring stations. Any changes to the final plans for permitted areas shall be submitted to DEQ immediately upon determination that changes are necessary. DEQ approval shall be required prior to implementing the changes.

4. The permittee shall submit written notification at least **ten calendar days** prior to the initiation of land disturbance or construction activities in permitted areas. The notification shall include a projected schedule for initiating and completing work at each permitted impact area.

Post-Construction Submittals

5. Post-construction photographs of permitted impact areas shall be submitted within **30 calendar days** of completing the entire construction project.
6. The permittee shall submit written notification within **30 calendar days** after the completion of all activities in all permitted impact areas authorized under this permit.

Part II – General Conditions

A. Duty to Comply

The permittee shall comply with all conditions of the VWP permit. Nothing in the VWP permit regulations shall be construed to relieve the permittee of the duty to comply with all applicable federal and state statutes, regulations and prohibitions. Any VWP permit violation is a violation of the law, and is grounds for enforcement action, VWP permit termination, revocation, modification, or denial of an application for a VWP permit extension or reissuance.

B. Duty to Cease or Confine Activity

It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the activity for which a VWP permit has been granted in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of the VWP permit.

C. Duty to Mitigate

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any impacts in violation of the permit which may have a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

D. VWP Permit Action

1. A VWP permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated as set forth in 9 VAC 25-210 et seq.
2. If a permittee files a request for VWP permit modification, revocation, or termination, or files a notification of planned changes, or anticipated noncompliance, the VWP permit terms and conditions shall remain effective until the request is acted upon by the board. This provision shall not be used to extend the expiration date of the effective VWP permit. If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by the VWP permit after the expiration date of the VWP permit, the permittee must apply for and obtain a new VWP permit or comply with the provisions of 9 VAC 25-210-185 (VWP Permit Extension).
3. VWP permits may be modified, revoked and reissued or terminated upon the request of the permittee or other person at the board's discretion, or upon board initiative to reflect the requirements of any changes in the statutes or regulations, or as a result of VWP permit noncompliance as indicated in the Duty to Comply subsection above, or for other reasons listed in 9 VAC 25-210-180 (Rules for Modification, Revocation and Reissuance, and Termination of VWP permits).

E. Inspection and Entry

Upon presentation of credentials, any duly authorized agent of the board may, at reasonable times and under reasonable circumstances:

1. Enter upon any permittee's property, public or private, and have access to, inspect and copy any records that must be kept as part of the VWP permit conditions;
2. Inspect any facilities, operations or practices (including monitoring and control equipment) regulated or required under the VWP permit; and
3. Sample or monitor any substance, parameter or activity for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the conditions of the VWP permit or as otherwise authorized by law.

F. Duty to Provide Information

1. The permittee shall furnish to the board any information which the board may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking, reissuing or terminating the VWP permit, or to determine compliance with the VWP permit. The permittee shall also furnish to the board, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by the permittee.
2. Plans, specifications, maps, conceptual reports and other relevant information shall be submitted as required by the board prior to commencing construction.

G. Monitoring and Records Requirements

1. Monitoring of parameters, other than pollutants, shall be conducted according to approved analytical methods as specified in the VWP permit. Analysis of pollutants will be conducted according to 40 CFR Part 136 (2000), Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for the Analysis of Pollutants.
2. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.
3. The permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart or electronic recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by the VWP permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for the VWP permit, for a period of at least three years from the date of the expiration of a granted VWP permit. This period may be extended by request of the board at any time.
4. Records of monitoring information shall include:
 - a. The date, exact place and time of sampling or measurements;

- b. The name of the individuals who performed the sampling or measurements;
- c. The date and time the analyses were performed;
- d. The name of the individuals who performed the analyses;
- e. The analytical techniques or methods supporting the information such as observations, readings, calculations and bench data used;
- f. The results of such analyses; and
- g. Chain of custody documentation.

H. Transferability

This VWP permit may be transferred to a new permittee only by modification to reflect the transfer, by revoking and reissuing the permit, or by automatic transfer. Automatic transfer to a new permittee shall occur if:

1. The current permittee notifies the board within 30 days of the proposed transfer of the title to the facility or property;
2. The notice to the board includes a written agreement between the existing and proposed permittee containing a specific date of transfer of VWP permit responsibility, coverage and liability to the new permittee, or that the existing permittee will retain such responsibility, coverage, or liability, including liability for compliance with the requirements of any enforcement activities related to the permitted activity; and
3. The board does not within the 30-day time period notify the existing permittee and the new permittee of its intent to modify or revoke and reissue the VWP permit.

I. Property rights

The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights in either real or personal property, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights or any infringement of federal, state or local law or regulation.

J. Reopener

Each VWP permit shall have a condition allowing the reopening of the VWP permit for the purpose of modifying the conditions of the VWP permit to meet new regulatory standards duly adopted by the board. Cause for reopening VWP permits includes, but is not limited to when the circumstances on which the previous VWP permit was based have materially and substantially

changed, or special studies conducted by the board or the permittee show material and substantial change, since the time the VWP permit was issued and thereby constitute cause for VWP permit modification or revocation and reissuance.

K. Compliance with State and Federal Law

Compliance with this VWP permit constitutes compliance with the VWP permit requirements of the State Water Control Law. Nothing in this VWP permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action under or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or other penalties established pursuant to any other state law or regulation or under the authority preserved by § 510 of the Clean Water Act.

L. Severability

The provisions of this VWP permit are severable.

M. Permit Modification

A VWP permit may be modified, but not revoked and reissued except when the permittee agrees or requests, when any of the following developments occur:

1. When additions or alterations have been made to the affected facility or activity which require the application of VWP permit conditions that differ from those of the existing VWP permit or are absent from it;
2. When new information becomes available about the operation or activity covered by the VWP permit which was not available at VWP permit issuance and would have justified the application of different VWP permit conditions at the time of VWP permit issuance;
3. When a change is made in the promulgated standards or regulations on which the VWP permit was based;
4. When it becomes necessary to change final dates in schedules due to circumstances over which the permittee has little or no control such as acts of God, materials shortages, etc. However, in no case may a compliance schedule be modified to extend beyond any applicable statutory deadline of the Act;
5. When changes occur which are subject to "reopener clauses" in the VWP permit; or
6. When the board determines that minimum instream flow levels resulting from the permittee's withdrawal of water are detrimental to the instream beneficial use and the withdrawal of water should be subject to further net limitations or when an area is declared a Surface Water Management Area pursuant to §§ 62.1-242 through 62.1-253 of the Code of Virginia, during the term of the VWP permit.

N. Permit Termination

After notice and opportunity for a formal hearing pursuant to Procedural Rule No. 1 (9 VAC 25-230-100) a VWP permit can be terminated for cause. Causes for termination are as follows:

1. Noncompliance by the permittee with any condition of the VWP permit;
2. The permittee's failure in the application or during the VWP permit issuance process to disclose fully all relevant facts or the permittee's misrepresentation of any relevant facts at any time;
3. The permittee's violation of a special or judicial order;
4. A determination by the board that the permitted activity endangers human health or the environment and can be regulated to acceptable levels by VWP permit modification or termination;
5. A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of any activity controlled by the VWP permit; and
6. A determination that the permitted activity has ceased and that the compensatory mitigation for unavoidable adverse impacts has been successfully completed.

O. Civil and Criminal Liability

Nothing in this VWP permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from civil and criminal penalties for noncompliance.

P. Oil and Hazardous Substance Liability

Nothing in this VWP permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject under § 311 of the Clean Water Act or §§ 62.1-44.34:14 through 62.1-44.34:23 of the State Water Control Law.

Q. Unauthorized Discharge of Pollutants

Except in compliance with this VWP permit, it shall be unlawful for the permittee to:

1. Discharge into state waters sewage, industrial wastes, other wastes, or any noxious or deleterious substances;
2. Excavate in a wetland;

3. Otherwise alter the physical, chemical, or biological properties of state waters and make them detrimental to the public health, to animal or aquatic life, to the uses of such waters for domestic or industrial consumption, for recreation, or for other uses;
4. On or after October 1, 2001 conduct the following activities in a wetland:
 - a. New activities to cause draining that significantly alters or degrades existing wetland acreage or functions;
 - b. Filling or dumping;
 - c. Permanent flooding or impounding;
 - d. New activities that cause significant alteration or degradation of existing wetland acreage or functions.

R. Permit Extension

Any permittee with an effective VWP permit for an activity that is expected to continue after the expiration date of the VWP permit, without any change in the activity authorized by the VWP permit, shall submit written notification requesting an extension. The permittee must file the request prior to the expiration date of the VWP permit. Under no circumstances will the extension be granted for more than 15 years beyond the original effective date of the VWP permit. If the request for extension is denied, the VWP permit will still expire on its original date and, therefore, care should be taken to allow for sufficient time for the board to evaluate the extension request and to process a full VWP permit modification, if required.